

REMARKS

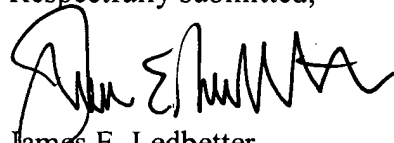
Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that claims 3 and 18-21 are allowable. The subject matter of allowable claim 3 and intervening claim 2 has been entirely incorporated within claim 1. Similarly, the subject matter of allowable claim 18 has been entirely incorporated within base claim 8, and claim 8 has been drafted to overcome the indefiniteness rejection applied to claim 27. Claims 4, 15, 19, and 21 have been amended to depend from their respective base claims, and claims 7, 20, 24, and 25 have been amended for clarity. Claims 2, 3, 10-13, and 18 have been cancelled. Therefore, allowance of claims 1 and 8 and all claims dependent therefrom is warranted.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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